

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 24 February 2005 (24.02.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/016181 A3

(51) International Patent Classification7:

A61B 1/00

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2004/025238

(22) International Filing Date: 4 August 2004 (04.08.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 60/491,971

4 August 2003 (04.08.2003) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): VISION-SCIENCES, INC. [US/US]; 9 Strathmore Road, Natick, MA 01760 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): MARTONE, Stephen [US/US]; P.O. Box 1043, Middlesex Country, Westford, MA 01886 (US). HADANI, Ron [US/US]; 417 Rutland Avenue, Bergen Country, Teaneck, NJ 07660 (US).
- (74) Agents: DIPPERT, William, H. et al.; Reed Smith LLP, 599 Lexington Avenue, 29th Floor, New York, NY 10022-7650 (US).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

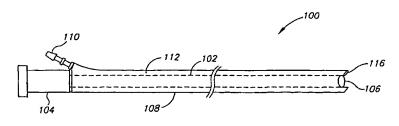
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 14 April 2005

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SHEATH WITH CHANNEL FOR ENDOSCOPE



(57) Abstract: A sheath assembly (100) for an invasive probe. The sheath assembly (100) includes an internal sheath (102) for covering a probe and at least one channel tube (112) external to the internal sheath (102), the channel tube (112) being foldable into a closed state in which the tube does not define a channel, or openable into an open state in which the tube defines a channel that extends along a portion of the sheath assembly (100).

